



Mornington
Peninsula

Media Background August 2003

Frogspond. Serious plonk.

Frogspond's vineyard is situated on an ideal aspect for growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grape varieties. This north-facing slope on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula is said to rival France's Grand Cru.

This position, coupled with the superior viticulture methods employed by vigneron Dean Nelson, ensures a premium crop. Dean is passionately dedicated to superior crop quality. For this reason Frogspond's vineyard is recognised as one of the Peninsula's premium grape producers and supplies to a select handful of premium labels in the area.

Since the first commercial vintage in 1997 Frogspond has developed, in partnership with some of Australia's leading wine makers, limited editions of Frogspond Chardonnay and Pinot Noir wine.

Frogspond owner, Dean Nelson, states, "Premium quality is the underlying aim for all Frogspond activity, for this reason the crop will always be maintained to be low yielding and remain at five acres."

"This commitment to quality has been the main driver for employing David Lloyd as our wine maker. David is recognised as one of the industry's finest, but more importantly I enjoy the wine he makes," Dean concluded.

Frogspond history

New vigneron Dean and Marian Nelson spent a number of years during the early 1990's searching for the perfect site on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. It wasn't until 1994 that they settled on a property that became affectionately known to friends and family as Frogspond; due to the numerous varieties of frogs croaking in the naturally spring fed dam located on the property.

The Chardonnay and Pinot Noir rootlings were planted over '94/95. Irrigation from the dam ensured that they were well-established and vigorous vines. By 1997 Frogspond was producing its first commercial crop.

The grand cru position combined with excellent vine maintenance results in some of Victoria's best Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes.

If the product of the relationship is to be an excellent wine, the marrying of this excellent fruit requires the selection of a suitable winemaker. To date, Frogspond has been actively involved with industry legend Ian Home (Yellowglen and Massoni) who was responsible for the vintages of 1997 to 2000. Carrying on the mantle is local wine maker David Lloyd (Eldridge Estate) – responsible for producing the 2002 and 2003 vintages. These respected winemakers are responsible for some of Australia's finest wines - past and present.

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www.frogspond.com.au

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